



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[Docket No. USCG-2012-0700]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulation; Port Huron Offshore Gran Prix,  
St. Clair River; Port Huron, MI.

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

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SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a special local regulation on the St. Clair River, Port Huron, Michigan. This action is necessary and intended to ensure safety of life on the navigable waters immediately prior to, during, and immediately after the Port Huron Offshore Gran Prix boat race. This special local regulation will establish restrictions upon, and control movement of, vessels in a portion of the St. Clair River. During the enforcement period, no person or vessel may enter the regulated area without permission of the Captain of the Port.

DATES: This rule is effective from 11:30 a.m. on August 11, 2012, until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Documents mentioned in this preamble are part

of docket [USCG-2012-0700]. To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, type the docket number in the "SEARCH" box, and click "Search." You may visit the Docket Management Facility, Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary rule, call or e-mail LT Adrian Palomeque, Prevention Department, Sector Detroit, Coast Guard; telephone (313) 568-9508, e-mail [Adrian.F.Palomeque@uscg.mil](mailto:Adrian.F.Palomeque@uscg.mil). If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Acronyms

DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	Federal Register
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

A. Regulatory History and Information

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary final rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative

Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are "impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest." Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because doing so would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. The final details for this event were not known to the Coast Guard until there was insufficient time remaining before the event to publish an NPRM. Thus, delaying the effective date of this rule to wait for a comment period to run would be both impracticable and contrary to the public interest because it would inhibit the Coast Guard's ability to protect spectators, participants and vessels from the hazards associated with power boat races, which are discussed further below.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. For the same reasons discussed in the preceding paragraph, waiting for 30 day notice period run would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest.

## B. Basis and Purpose

Between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on August 11, 2012, and 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012, the OPA Racing LLC is holding powerboat races that will require the immediate area to be clear of all vessel traffic. The Captain of the Port Detroit has determined powerboat races in close proximity to watercraft and infrastructure pose significant risk to public safety and property. The likely combination of large numbers of recreation vessels, powerboats traveling at high speeds, and large numbers of spectators in close proximity to the water could easily result in serious injuries or fatalities.

## c. Discussion of Rule

With the aforementioned hazards in mind, the Captain of the Port Detroit has determined that a special local regulation is necessary to ensure the safety of spectators, vessels, and participants. This special local regulation will be effective from 11:30 a.m. on August 11, 2012 until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012 and enforced from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on August 11, 2012, and 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012. This regulated area will encompass all waters of the St. Clair River, beginning at a point on land at 42°58'50"N, 082°25'12"W; extending east to the international border at 42°58'50"N, 082°24'59"W;

extending south along the international border, in U.S. waters of the St. Clair River, to position 42°57'05"N, 082°25'47"W; extending west to position 42°57'05"N, 082°26'02"W. All geographic coordinates are North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

Entry into, transiting, or anchoring within the regulated area is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Detroit or his designated on scene representative. The Captain of the Port or his designated on scene representative may be contacted via VHF Channel 16.

#### D. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on 13 of these statutes or executive orders.

##### 1. Regulatory Planning and Review

This rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563, Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of Executive Order 12866 or under section 1 of Executive Order 13563. The Office of

Management and Budget has not reviewed it under those Orders. It is not "significant" under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). We conclude that this rule is not a significant regulatory action because we anticipate that it will have minimal impact on the economy, will not interfere with other agencies, will not adversely alter the budget of any grant or loan recipients, and will not raise any novel legal or policy issues. The regulated navigation area created by this rule will be relatively small and enforced for relatively short time. Also, the regulated navigation area is designed to minimize its impact on navigable waters. Furthermore, the regulated navigation area has been designed to allow vessels to transit through it. Thus, restrictions on vessel movement within that particular area are expected to be minimal. Under certain conditions, moreover, vessels may still transit through the regulated navigation area when permitted by the Captain of the Port.

## 2. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601-612, as amended, requires federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. The Coast Guard certifies

under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

This rule would affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit or anchor in this portion of the St. Clair River near Port Huron, MI between 11:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on August 11, 2012, and 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012.

This special local regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: This regulated area would be activated, and thus subject to enforcement, for only 4 hours on August 11, 2012, and 7.5 hours on August 12, 2012. Traffic may be allowed to pass through the regulated area with the permission of the Captain of the Port. The Captain of the Port can be reached via VHF channel 16. Before enforcement of the regulated area begins, we will issue local Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

### 3. Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this rule. If the rule would affect your small business, organization,

or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

#### 4. Collection of Information

This rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520).

#### 5. Federalism

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power



and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and determined that this rule does not have implications for federalism.

#### 6. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

#### 7. Taking of Private Property

This rule will not cause a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

#### 8. Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets applicable standards in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce

burden.

#### 9. Protection of Children

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and does not create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

#### 10. Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

#### 11. Energy Effects

This action is not a "significant energy action" under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use.

#### 12. Technical Standards

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary

consensus standards.

### 13. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023-01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370f), and have concluded this action is one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule involves a special local regulation and, therefore it is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph (34)(h) of Figure 2-1 of the Commandant Instruction. An environmental analysis checklist supporting this determination and a Categorical Exclusion Determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES. We seek any comments or information that may lead to the discovery of a significant environmental impact from this rule.

#### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and record keeping requirements, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

PART 100—SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS

1. The authority citation for part 100 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1233.

2. Add § 100.T09-0700 to read as follows:

§ 100.T09-0700 Special Local Regulation; Port Huron Offshore Gran Prix, Port Huron, MI.

(a) Location. The regulated area will encompass all waters of the St. Clair River, Port Huron, Michigan, beginning at a point on land at 42°58'50"N, 082°25'12"W; extending east to the international border at 42°58'50"N, 082°24'59"W; extending south along the international border, in U.S. waters of the St. Clair River, to position 42°57'05"N, 082°25'47"W; extending west to position 42°57'05"N, 082°26'02"W. All geographic coordinates are North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

(b) Enforcement Period. This special local regulation will be enforced from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on August 11, 2012, and 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on August 12, 2012.

(1) (c) Regulations. (l) In accordance with the general regulations in section 100.901 of this part, entry into, transiting, or anchoring within this regulated area is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Detroit or his designated on-scene representative.

(2) This regulated navigation area is closed to all vessel traffic, except as may be permitted by the Captain of the Detroit or his designated on-scene representative.

(3) The "on-scene representative" of the Captain of the Port Detroit is any Coast Guard commissioned, warrant or petty officer who has been designated by the Captain of the Port Detroit to act on his behalf.

(4) Vessel operators desiring to enter or operate within the regulated area shall contact the Captain of the Port Detroit or his on-scene representative to obtain permission to do so. The Captain of the Port Detroit or his on-scene representative may be contacted via VHF Channel 16. Vessel operators given permission to enter or operate in the regulated area must comply with all directions given to them by the Captain of the Port Detroit, or his on-scene representative.

Dated: July 30, 2012

J. E. Ogden  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port Detroit

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